

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 were pending. Claims 1, 5 and 8 are canceled herein. Thus, claims 2-4, 6, 7 and 9-12 are pending. The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

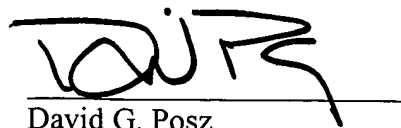
Claims 1, 5 and 8 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Fuseki, U.S. Patent No. 5,188,348 in view of Cox, Jr. U.S. Patent No. 4,079,374 (hereinafter "Cox"). Claims 1, 5 and 8 are canceled herein, thereby rendering the Examiner's rejection moot.

Claims 2-4, 6, 7 and 9-12 were indicated in the previous office action as being allowable if re-written to include the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Claims 2, 6 and 9 have accordingly been re-written to include the features of claims 1, 5 and 8, respectively, and should therefore be allowable. Claims 3, 4, 7, and 11-12, by virtue of depending from claims 2, 6 and 8, should also be allowable. Claim 10 has been re-written to include the features of claim 1 and should also now be allowable.

In view of the foregoing, the applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. A timely notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If questions relating to patentability remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Please charge any unforeseen fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 01-0305.

Respectfully submitted,



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